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AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A visual image display, comprising: The display of claim 21, wherein:

[a] the fiber-optic faceplate comprising includes:

an upper face;

a lower face; and

a multiplicity of straight optical fibers positioned between the upper face and the lower face of the faceplate;

wherein longitudinal axes of the optical fibers are parallel to each other and substantially perpendicular to the upper face and the lower face of the faceplate; and

wherein each of the fibers collects and projects through the faceplate a plurality of light rays emitted by an ambient light source; and

a layer of suspended particle device (SPD) positioned underneath the lower face of the faceplate, wherein the layer of SPD comprises the suspended particle device (SPD) further includes:

particles suspended in droplets of a liquid light valve suspension, wherein the particles are capable of absorbing or reflecting the plurality of light rays; and

a pair of electrodes on positioned in contact with opposite surfaces of [the] a layer of the SPD, wherein orientations of the particles depend on an application of an electric field to the electrodes.

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2. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, further comprising a transparent conductive layer coated underneath the lower face of the faceplate and on top of the layer of SPD.

3. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, further comprising perimeter seals at both ends of the layer of SPD.

4. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, wherein the particles align in the direction of the electric field when the electric field is applied, whereby the layer of the SPD becomes substantially transparent to the plurality of light rays.

5. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, wherein particles randomize when the electric field is removed, whereby the layer of the SPD becomes substantially opaque.

6. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, further comprising color filters positioned on a rear substrate to produce a color display, wherein the rear substrate is positioned underneath the layer of the SPD.

7. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, wherein the fiber-optic faceplate is formed to a thickness within the range of approximately 0.25 to 5.0 millimeters.

8. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, wherein the layer of SPD comprises a layer of SPD fluid.

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9. (Original) The visual image display of claim 1, wherein the layer of SPD comprises a layer of SPD film.

10. (Original) The visual image display of claim 9, further comprising a thin layer of index matching fluid positioned on top of the layer of SPD film.

11. (Currently amended) A visual image display, comprising:
a fiber-optical faceplate ~~through which light can pass;~~
a layer of ~~suspended particle device (SPD) positioned underneath the~~ faceplate, wherein the layer ~~includes of SPD~~ comprises: a liquid light valve suspension and particles suspended in droplets of [a] the liquid light valve suspension, wherein the particles are capable of absorbing or reflecting the plurality of light [rays]; and
a pair of electrodes positioned in contact with opposite surfaces of the layer [of SPD];
wherein orientations of the particles depend on an application of an electric field to the electrodes; and]
~~a transparent conductive layer coated underneath the faceplate and on top of the layer of SPD.~~

12. (Currently amended) The visual image display of claim 11, further comprising perimeter seals at both ends of the layer [of SPD].

13. (Currently amended) The visual image display of claim 11, wherein the particles align in the direction of the electric field when the electric field is applied,

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whereby the layer of the SPD becomes substantially transparent to the plurality of light [rays].

14. (Currently amended) The visual image display of claim 11, wherein particles randomize when the electric field is removed, whereby the layer of the SPD becomes substantially opaque.

15. (Currently amended) The visual image display of claim 11, further comprising a substrate and color filters positioned on a rear the substrate to produce a color display, wherein the [rear] substrate is positioned underneath the layer of the SPD.

Claims 16-20 (Cancelled).

21. (Currently amended) A ~~fiber-optic faceplate~~ visual image display comprising:

a fiber-optic faceplate; and

a suspended particle device light valve in optical communication with the fiber optic faceplate, the light valve including a plurality of particles in a suspending suspension medium.

22. (Previously presented) The display of claim 21, wherein the light valve further includes first and second electrodes, the suspension medium between the first and second electrodes.

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23. (Previously presented) The display of claim 21, further comprising a substrate, the light valve sandwiched between the faceplate and the substrate.

24. (New) The display of claim 21, further comprising a color filter positioned adjacent the suspended particle device.

25. (New) Apparatus comprising:
a substrate;
a color filter on the substrate;
a suspended particle device on the color filter; and
a fiber-optic faceplate on the suspended particle device.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising means for sealing the suspended particle device to the faceplate, the means allowing motion of the faceplate relative to the suspended particle device.